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Police vow community is safe after Edmonton mall threat

Message comes from Somali terrorist group Al-Shabab

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AN OSCAR 12 YEARS IN THE MAKING

Patricia Arquette accepts the award for best actress in a supporting role for Boyhood at the Oscars on Sunday in Los Angeles. Directed by Richard Linklater, the film was recorded over a period of 12 years with the same cast, so that the actors aged along with their characters. For more Oscars coverage, see pages 12 & 13. JOHN SHEARER/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shooting victim was 'just a kid'

Edmonton Trail.
Woman who tried to save victim's life recounts harrowing experience

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

At first Haley Poulin thought the "pop-pop" sounds she heard were neighbours playing with a cap gun, but when she looked out her window and saw a young man lying bloodied in the street, she leapt into action.

"I just jumped over my balcony," she said Sunday afternoon, still visibly shaken. "I just ran."

The man was lying on the ground on the other side of Edmonton Trail from Poulin's home, near the intersection of 26th Avenue N.E. He was "barely conscious" when she got to him.

"He got shot four times," Poulin said. "The first thing I said to him was, 'Hi, I'm trained in CPR Class 2. I'm just going to flip you over and do some CPR — is that OK?' And he gurgled."

She said she performed CPR for what seemed like 10 minutes, but what was likely far shorter, before police and emergency medical responders arrived.

"I got blood all in my throat. I puked in my mouth. But the kid, I hope, is alive — that's all I care about," Poulin said.

She believed him to be quite young: "I'd say 21, maybe 22 — just a kid."

EMS responded to the area shortly after 2 p.m. and took the victim to Foothills Hospital in critical, life-threatening condition.

Police said he died shortly afterward.

Officers tracked by helicopter a man believed to be the shooter and arrested him in a nearby field, said Duty Insp. Joel Matthews.

The man, in his 20s, was considered the sole suspect and was being interviewed by detectives Sunday evening.

"There's no indication that it was random, but there's no indication it was related to gangs," Matthews said of the shooting.

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Street art. Nipple pic twisted by vandalism

Apparent vandalism left no permanent damage to a downtown piece of "guerrilla art," which depicts two men in a lake pinching each other's nipples, but the exhibit's curator is still disappointed.

"I was pretty upset," Steven Cottingham said Sunday. "I didn't think people's views would be so strong that somebody would be willing to go so far out of their way to protest this."

As Metro reported last week, the piece at the Downtown West-Kerby LRT station is part of Calgary Biennial, a showcase that uses a $20,000 grant to buy ad space and display artworks in public areas.

"Stop pushing your agenda and calling it Art! Is this tax $?" reads a poster taped over the piece. In smaller print below, it adds: "Get a room. This is a public place!" Black tape was also placed over one man's nipple that wasn't covered by the poster itself.

Cottingham said Calgary Biennial's $20,000 grant came from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, an arm's-length agency of the province funded by lottery proceeds, not taxes.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

The piece consists of this "found photo" and is part of a larger series by Toronto artist Steven Beckly called Reunions. CONTRIBUTED

Calgary's newest public art installations. Clockwise from the top left: Luminous Crossings, Chinook Arc, Charged Line, Under the Helmet, River Passage, Frozen River.
COURTESY CITY OF CALGARY IMAGES

What's gone up since the infamous 'Travelling Light'

Poll. What do you think Calgary should do with its public art budget? Vote online at metronews.ca

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

Mention public art in Calgary and you're almost certain to evoke thoughts of "Travelling Light," the giant blue ring just off of Airport Trail that has been the source of confusion, anger, ridicule, resentment and a popular parody Twitter account.

Completed in December 2013 at a cost of $470,000, the sculpture has become the poster child (and punching bag) for public art in Calgary, but the program has seen six new installations — at a cost of just over $5.9 million — since.

As council prepares for Monday's debate over suspending public art funding, here's a rundown of the most recent installations in Calgary, how much they cost, and where to find them:

Luminous Crossings: $1.8 million: This series of 20 separate sculptures runs along 7 Avenue South and marks the LRT fare-free zone. It includes a series of hanging sculptures that project light down onto the platforms. The colour of the light changes in time with the arrival and departure of CTrains.

Chinook Arc: $370,000: Located in Barb Scott Park in the Beltline, this interactive sculpture is inspired by the shape of Calgary's Chinook arch clouds. You can walk under the sculpture and alter the colour of its internal lights by holding a coloured object up to a lens.

Charged Line: $185,000: This piece at South Calgary Fire Station No. 5 depicts pressurized fire hoses. It's made from stainless steel tubes, bronze mesh and brass couplings. LED strands "spray" out of the nozzles at the top of the hoses.

Under the Helmet: $170,000: This piece outside the new Windsor Park Fire Station is meant to express the "complex relationships and dependencies that exist among firefighters and their equipment."

River Passage: $3.12 million: This artwork at Pearce Estate Park also provides a seating area along the Bow River. Built into the environment itself, it changes with the seasons.

Frozen River: $267,000: This piece outside Calgary's Emergency Operations Centre is made of local stone stuffed into a mesh loop-the-loop. It's described as "a response to Calgary's inspiring elemental force and beauty."

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A brief reference to the West Edmonton Mall was made by Somali terrorist group Al-Shabab in a documentary-style video online. CONTRIBUTED

West Edmonton Mall is safe, police say

Al-Shabab.
Somali group suggests terrorist attack against shopping centre

RYAN TUMILTY
Metro in Edmonton

In the wake of a terrorist threat lobbed from halfway across the world, Edmonton police emphasized Sunday the community is safe.

The threat comes from Al-Shabab, a Somali terrorist group, which claimed responsibility for an attack against a Kenyan mall in 2013 that left 67 people dead.

The brief reference to the West Edmonton Mall is near the end of a 76-minute, documentary-style video about the mall attack.

"What if such an attack were to occur in the Mall of America in Minnesota? Or the West Edmonton Mall in Canada? Or in London's Oxford Street?" a masked man asks in the video.

Edmonton police are taking the video seriously, said Deputy Chief Brian Simpson, but noted it did not represent a specific threat.

"I feel West Edmonton Mall is very safe," he said. "I also feel this community is very safe."

Simpson said police were working with mall security and people in the Somali and Muslim communities.

"Our best opportunity to deal with (these types of) threats is to involve our community," he said.

Police have said before that they are actively investigating several people in Alberta because they fear some are being radicalized.

RCMP assistant commissioner Marlin Degrand said that after a threat like this they would be even more vigilant.

"We will be looking for any changes in behaviour, any of those signs or indicators that there might be some kind of a concern," he said.

In a statement, Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson said even though the threat is concerning, the city is in no imminent danger and residents should not overreact.

"It's equally concerning to hear the appeal directed toward a specific group," Iveson said. "The Somali Edmontonians I know are hard-working, peace-loving, contributing members of our community, and I fully expect they would be as offended as other Edmontonians at any suggestion of violence."

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"Our best opportunity to deal with (these types of) threats is to involve our community."

Deputy Chief Brian Simpson, Edmonton Police Service

"Sometimes all you have to do is show up and just be yourself." Alexis Hillyard

An advocate for sexual and gender minorities, loving sister, daughter and friend, and a proud gay woman, Alexis Hillyard is example of the positive results of mentoring. Together with other leaders in our community, Alexis is spreading the word that mentoring can have a real impact on the lives of young people.

"Littles" come from all ethnicities, backgrounds and personal circumstances. In Edmonton and area, young people are waiting for a volunteer to step forward and be their friend. If you have a couple of hours a week and want to make a difference, please join us.

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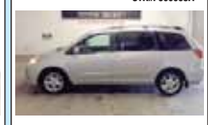
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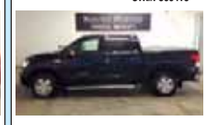
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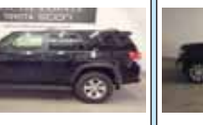
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Cabbies react to ignored-calls report

Transportation. Are Calgary taxi drivers chasing 'dream trip' or just doing their job?

JEREMY NOLAIS
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Comments from a city cab broker suggesting drivers repeatedly ignore ride requests are being dismissed by some in the industry and prompting calls for change from others.

A report released last week by city livery officials cited "rampant picking and choosing" among drivers.

Kurt Enders, president of Checker Yellow Cabs, provided his own data that shows a single customer's request for a ride was being ignored 40 to 60 times by his drivers.

But Jaspal Sekhon, a Checker driver and member of the Taxi and Limousine Advisory Committee, noted 83 per cent of customers saw a cab arrive with 15 minutes in 2014, just shy of a goal of 85 per cent.

He conceded that some trips are ignored but said it's generally when a cabbie has a prime spot in a queue at a downtown hotel or other customer hot spot.

"When these trips do get rejected, it's not like they're not immediately getting picked up by the next car in line," Sekhon said.

Cabbies are unlikely to give up their spot in a queue like this one at the International Hotel, say some drivers. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Another driver, John, who's worked for multiple outfits over more than 30 years, said there's a reluctance among drivers to pick up grocery-store fares and the like because it would require the driver to help with loading and unloading.

"Nobody wants that trip," he said. "The drivers, they just don't want to go to work. They want the dream trip."

Roger Richard, president of Associated Cab, said he doesn't believe drivers are to blame and reiterated his months-long call for the immediate release of an additional 257 plates.

"They (drivers) don't ignore you; I don't think that's an issue," he said. "Drivers take trips when they're there.... Put them (the plates) all out, and the good drivers will survive and the bad will fall."

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‘He can’t know them all,’ says professor

Tory nominations. Premier’s ‘personal’ endorsement of sitting MLAs raises questions

JEREMY NOLAIS
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To date, Calgary-Currie incumbent Christine Cusanelli has been endorsed by the premier, the education minister, the infrastructure minister, the municipal-affairs boss, the government whip, the Service Alberta minister, the minister of environment and a number of other high-profile MLAs.

Her party challenger Dustin Franks has been backed by former MLA Karen Kryczka and former MP Lee Richardson; he has no current-serving politicians in his corner.

Meanwhile, Sandra Jansen — incumbent in Calgary North West — also earned support from Prentice and McQueen and added Justice Minister Jonathan Denis to her crew of boosters.

Her competitor Blair Houston has not listed any politicos as being in his camp.

Houston was defeated by Jansen in the first “super Saturday” rundown of Tory nomination races.

A second round, featuring the Franks-Cusanelli battle, is coming this Saturday.

“It is what it is,” said Houston. “I know people are onboard and Jim (Prentice) is trying to be fair to all his sitting MLAs.”

That fairness has come in the form of a blanket letter provided to all incumbent Tories in which Prentice offers his “personal endorsement.”

But Keith Brownsey, a political scientist with Mount Royal University, said it’s not common practice for a premier to offer such widespread support in internal party nominations.

“He can’t know them all, he wouldn’t pretend to know them all, he wouldn’t care to know them all,” Brownsey said.

Premier Jim Prentice METRO FILE

Drayton Valley

Mountie fires at fleeing driver

An RCMP officer fired a pistol at a suspect near Drayton Valley early Sunday following a car chase.

Drayton Valley RCMP say a stolen vehicle failed to stop when prompted and later got stuck in “rough terrain.” According to the RCMP, the driver got out of the vehicle and “abruptly” reached for something in the back of the vehicle. A 27-year-old man was arrested. METRO

Firearms

Man hit by shot at gun range

A man had life-saving surgery Sunday after being hit by a shot at a gun range west of Calgary.

Police believe the man was hit in the neck by a ricochet after his friend fired at a metal plate at a shooting range south of Jumping Pound Creek.

The wounded man was in critical condition but is expected to survive.

Police continue to investigate.

METRO

Comedy. Open-mike night in anti-bullying campaign

Sweaty palms and a cracking voice aren’t just features of our adolescence, and 11 Calgarians are prepared to prove it when they face their fears for an open-mike comedy fundraiser.

On Monday night, the Funny in Fear Fundraiser will take the Hotel Blackfoot stage to raise money for the anti-bullying campaign of Peer Mediation and Skills Training (PMAST).

“When we talk about issues like bullying and conflict, everyone is very serious,” said Winston Blake, managing director at PMAST. “So we wanted to put a little bit of a different spin on it and bring a different medium, which, of course, is stand-up comedy.”

PMAST has set up in schools across Canada but started 13 years ago in Calgary. By setting up conflict-management programs, Blake said they help stop bullying before it becomes a habit.

“It doesn’t end in high school,” he said. “It gravitates into the workplace, into the family if we let it.... The community is saying that we’ve had too many Amanda Todds, we’ve have too many Rehtaeh Parsons and we can’t continue to let that happen.”

JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Volunteers hit the stage for their comedy debut on Monday. CONTRIBUTED

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Tory plan for veterans faces new challenges

Job transition. Not all military pension counts towards eventual civil service retirement

Another wrinkle has developed in the Harper government's push to give veterans preferred status for federal jobs: for many reservists, not all of their military pension counts toward their eventual civil service retirement.

Beth Lepage, a former airforce captain, said a portion of her Canadian Forces pension — accumulated as a part-time member — can't be converted because of a difference in the way government and military retirement benefits are calculated. Lepage said she believes that will be a significant barrier to ex-soldiers with both full- and part-time service applying for federal jobs, a transition the Conservative government says it's eager to facilitate.

In order to fix the problem, the federal Treasury Board would have to rewrite the regulations governing how pension funds are converted — something it has so far refused to do.

"I may not be an Afghanistan veteran but I served my country for just under 24 years," Lepage said. "The government is holding tens of thousands of dollars I took out of my RRSP a few years ago. They're making the interest on it. So, I feel like they're holding my pension hostage."

There are about 30 cases similar to Lepage's in the system, The Canadian Press has learned. Lepage predicts it will become a bigger problem as more ex-soldiers with mixed-service time look to take advantage of the fast-track offer of federal jobs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Easy fix?

Military ombudsman Gary Walbourne said he doesn't understand why the government is reluctant to make what he believes would be a relatively easy fix.

- "There is a good potential that this can become a larger problem than it is," Walbourne said.

Beloved beluga dies at SeaWorld

In this 2013 handout photo, Nanuq, a 2,200-pound beluga whale, gets acquainted with actress Isla Fisher at SeaWorld in San Diego. SeaWorld officials said Nanuq died Thursday at the estimated age of 31 or 32. The Vancouver Aquarium had lent the beluga whale to Orlando SeaWorld for breeding purposes. While the cause of death is not yet known, he had been undergoing treatment for an infection caused by a broken jaw that occurred in an encounter with other animals. Nanuq's death is renewing the debate over whether cetaceans should be bred in captivity.

PHOTO: SEAWORLD SAN DIEGO/GETTY IMAGES; TEXT: GETTY IMAGES, THE CANADIAN PRESS

Railway

CN resumes talks with union

Canadian National Railway and Unifor have resumed contract talks a day before the railway has threatened to lock out nearly 5,000 employees.

A CN statement says the company hopes to reach a negotiated settlement or to persuade the union to agree to binding arbitration. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Politics

Liberals call for law on assisted suicide

Justin Trudeau's Liberals want the outlines of a new law governing doctor-assisted dying to be clear by mid-summer — before Canadians head to the polls in October. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Dozens dead after river ferry sinks

Bangladesh. Ferry was struck by a cargo vessel at a crossing on the Padma River

A river ferry carrying up to 140 passengers capsized in central Bangladesh on Sunday after being hit by a cargo vessel, killing at least 48 people, officials said. A rescue operation was underway, but it was not clear how many people were missing.

The ferry was struck by the cargo vessel at the Daulatdia-Paturia crossing on the Padma River on Sunday afternoon, said fire department official Shahzadi Begum. Rescue teams were deployed and passing boats were helping in the operation, she said.

The site is 40 kilometres northwest of Dhaka, the capital. Ferry accidents are common in Bangladesh, an impoverished South Asian nation that is crisscrossed by more than 130 rivers.

The ferry, the M.L. Mosta, was submerged at a depth of up to six metres, said Inspector Zihad Mia, who is overseeing the rescue operation.

By Sunday evening, at least 48 bodies had been recovered, Mia said.

He said officials had yet to determine how many passengers were missing. Ferries in Bangladesh usually do not maintain formal passenger lists.

"We don't have a clear picture about how many were exactly in the ferry when it sank," Mia said. "But I think many have survived."

Jewel Mia, an official from the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority, told reporters at the scene that up to 140 people were on board when the ferry sank.

A passenger who survived said many people got trapped inside. "The passengers who were on the deck have survived, but many who were inside got trapped," Hafizur Rahman Sheikh was quoted as saying by the Prothom Alo newspaper.

Authorities ordered an investigation into the accident, and a five-member committee has been asked to submit a report within 15 days, the Ministry of Shipping said in a statement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lebanese families picnic after heavy snowstorm

Lebanese Druze families picnic in the snow a day after a strong snowstorm, near the village of Hamana, Mount Lebanon, on Sunday. A heavy winter storm descended on parts of the Middle East on Friday, with snow falling in Israel, parts of the West Bank, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria.

HUSSEIN MALLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Budget

Senate still in stalemate as deadline looms

The possible shutdown of the Department of Homeland Security threatens the Obama administration's efforts to counter the extremist appeal of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) within the U.S. and to aid communities struggling with winter snowstorms, Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson warned on Sunday. Funding for the department's $40-billion budget ends on Friday, and no solution is in sight for Congress to take action by then. The fight is over President Barack Obama's immigration plan.

A House-passed bill would fund the department through Sept. 30 and overturn Obama's move to limit deportations for illegal immigrants. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

East Ukraine

Blast kills, injures at march amid signs of hope

A bomb blast killed two at a march in Kharkiv, Ukraine, on Sunday, the first anniversary of the ouster of the country's Russia-friendly president, a gruesome counterpoint to the hopes spawned by a ceasefire agreement more than a week ago.

An exchange of prisoners this weekend and acknowledgment by both sides of a commitment to pull back heavy weapons are promising signs that peace may yet prevail, although sporadic exchanges of hostilities between government and separatist forces have yet to subside entirely.

Ukraine's interior ministry said the blast was considered a terrorist act. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Renewed U.S., Cuba relations opens economy

National sports. Revised rules allow Cuban athletes to sign personal endorsements

Before U.S. President Barack Obama announced plans in December to normalize state-to-state relations with Cuba, there were no warning signs.

But if you were looking closely, you might have seen a foreshadowing of the deal flash past on the track. Since last season, some standout Cuban athletes have competed in gear supplied by U.S. companies.

If legendary Cuban hurdler Dayron Robles competes at the Pan Am games in Toronto this summer, he'll do so in Nike shoes. Cuban track and field athletes wore Adidas regardless of their personal brand preference, as a long list of rules kept American companies from doing business with Cuba's state-run sports system.

But two years ago, the country's track and field federation quietly relaxed regulations, allowing athletes greater autonomy regarding apparel deals.

Brand mismatches between athletes and their national federations aren't rare. Athletics Canada, for example, is sponsored by Nike but can't stop athletes from seeking deals with other outfitters, a luxury Cuban athletes had not shared since 1961.

Robles complained about the federation's lack of resources and left the team in early 2013, only to resurface later that year on Monaco's track circuit — wearing Nike gear. He has since returned to a Cuban team transformed, one that has relaxed its individual endorsement deal restrictions.

The move to allow athletes the freedom to seek sponsorships comes amid broader reforms to stimulate the economy through private ownership of homes and businesses, the hope being to create jobs to balance national unemployment. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Cuban hurdler Dayron Robles at a meet in May 2014. LINTAO ZHANG/GETTY IMAGES

Banks. Oil slump hurts profits

Canada's top lenders are expected to report a decline in their investment banking profits when they release their first quarter financial results this week, largely due to a slowdown in oilpatch business.

Oil and gas companies are major clients when it comes to investment and corporate banking services, enlisting banks to help them generate cash for new projects by issuing stocks or debt on the public markets. It contributes up to 20 per cent of bank earnings. But the recent plunge in the price of oil has dragged down energy sector spending with it, reducing the need to raise capital on the markets.

"We do expect that the advisory fees that were contributed by energy previously are going to drop to fairly close to zero," said Barclays analyst John Aiken.

Analysts are concerned about the impact on the banks' loan books if oil and gas companies get into financial trouble.

The impact of oil prices on banks' bottom lines will be among the key issues for analysts and investors as lenders report first-quarter results. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Ottawa. GM stock may help feds balance budget

The Harper government's push to deliver a balanced budget despite low oil prices has attracted fresh attention to a potential stockpile of federal cash: a multi-billion-dollar taxpayer stake in the auto business.

The government's remaining 73.4 million shares in General Motors are now worth more than $3.4 billion in total, thanks to the combined effect of a solid stock price and a weakened Canadian dollar.

In fact, once the Canadian exchange rate is factored in on the U.S.-priced stock, its per-share value is higher than it has been in more than five years.

Earlier this month, Ottawa became the only North American government still holding stock acquired as part of the 2009 effort to bail out the then-sputtering automaker.

Ottawa's GM shares surfaced last month as one of several possible money-generating options that could help the Conservative government live up to its promise of balancing the 2015-16 budget.

Fulfilling the pledge will be central to Tory re-election fortunes. The government insists it will achieve a balanced budget even as lower crude prices indirectly carve billions of dollars from federal revenues.

Government shares

Ottawa initially booked the stock's value at $1.1 billion. Its gain or loss is determined by the stock's total proceeds minus its book value.

- **Book value.** Market value of remaining stock is $3.4 billion, which would leave Ottawa with a net gain of $2.3 billion. This would also leave the government only $600 million short of breaking even on its initial investment.

Selling the GM stock and booking the proceeds in the 2015-16 budget could help Ottawa offset the financial blow from the oil slump. Ottawa has reiterated its intention to eventually unload its shares.

Unifor, the union that represents 7,000 GM workers in Ontario, has urged Ottawa to hold on to its shares.

"The worst reason to sell GM shares is to help the government cover its little optics problem with a possible deficit," Unifor economist Jim Stanford said. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Ben Fox, right, CEO and co-founder of the startup Sidekick, and Bart Dabek, the company's co-founder and CTO at their office last week.
RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Feds should invest in startups: Report

A new report by the Broadbent Institute and Atkinson Foundation argues, against conventional business wisdom, that it is often the state — not the private sector — that is best-placed to pinpoint the business world's trailblazers.

By moving away from its current reliance on indirect measures like tax credits, the report says, the Canadian government could do much more to spur innovation success and ensure that its rewards are shared more fairly.

And, experts argue, Canada needs to do something big and bold, or risk being left behind in the innovation race. A 2011 report to the federal government said it needed to do much better at helping small businesses grow into global competitors.

"Governments are the only body in our society that can make the big bets on unproven research and unproven technologies," says David Wolfe, a political science professor at the University of Toronto Mississauga.

Yet, although Canada has one of the highest levels of indirect innovation support through tax credits amongst wealthy countries, its direct research and development spending compares poorly to competitors like Germany and the U.S. Those governments spend 2.8 and 2.9 per cent of their GDP on R&D respectively, while Canada spends less than 1.7 per cent.

Ben Fox, who launched his web tutorial start-up Sidekick from Ryerson's Digital Media Zone, has benefitted from both direct and indirect government support. He agrees that both can be important tools — tax credits helped alleviate end-of-year financial stress for the fledgling company — but says direct funding was absolutely essential, affording the company the necessary upfront cash to solve early technological problems. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

VOICES

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF FFWD

Much like the Calgary Eye Opener, Fast Forward Weekly was a pain in the ass — in the best possible sense of that phrase

KLASZUS' CALGARY
Jeremy Klaszus

Come on, Calgary. Will you really miss Fast Forward Weekly (FFWD)?

Last Friday, after the alt-weekly newspaper announced its demise (the final issue comes out March 5), social media overflowed with messages of community support. Even politicians lamented the loss.

Yes, it was heartening to see so many people mourn a beloved Calgary institution.

But it also made me think of another alternative newspaper that ceased publication nearly a century ago: the Calgary Eye Opener.

Written by a brilliant agitator named Bob Edwards, the Eye Opener fearlessly excoriated the pretentious and powerful of young boomtown Calgary.

His code was thus: "Let me not truckle to the high, nor bulldoze the low." Edwards lived by that until he died in 1922.

Today, the elites of our city gather annually for a Bob Edwards gala, ostensibly to celebrate his legacy. What they're really thinking is: "Thank God that guy is dead and can no longer antagonize us."

FFWD's end is a little like that, I think.

Because let's be honest: FFWD could be a real pain in the ass. Its code was akin to Edwards'.

Ask the Calgary Farmers' Market, Glenbow and the Art Gallery of Calgary (since merged into Contemporary Calgary), all targets of scathing FFWD investigations over the years.

Or ask Marc Henry, ex-chief of staff to former mayor Dave Bronconnier, who disparaged a previous mayor as "crazy as sh—" in a 2010 interview with then staff writer Trevor Howell.

After FFWD printed that colourful quote, Henry was livid. He called and let fly: "This will be the last f—ing call I ever make to Fast Forward ... and I'll make damn sure you will never interview the mayor."

FFWD published that quote, too, access to the mayor be damned.

Ask former Conservative MP Lee Richardson, who in a 2008 FFWD interview went on an ill-considered rant linking "people that have grown up in a different culture" with urban crime. Prime Minister Stephen Harper denounced the resulting story as "gotcha journalism."

(Full disclosure: I was the reporter on that one, as I had the fortune of being FFWD's staff writer from 2007 to 2009. Best job I ever had, by far.)

Led by current editor/publisher Drew Anderson, the paper has flown the Edwardsian flag high to the end. Where other media tend toward hometown boosterism, FFWD didn't flinch from inconvenient truths about our city, province and country.

Last fall, Anderson wrote on Calgary's hostility toward people without high-paying jobs: "The truth is, for vast swaths of the population, this isn't a great place to live; it's a place to scrape by while praying your landlord doesn't up the rent. It's bullsh— and we all know it."

It was classic FFWD. Scrappy, unapologetic dissent. Stuff that needed saying.

As the paper winds down, let's not sanitize FFWD's colourful and provocative run. The paper was loved, yes, but not by all at all times.

Bob Edwards himself would drink to that legacy. So will I.

Your Calgary

Ducking around

Five-year-old Lucien Lin, left, and his little brother Theo get a close look at a flock of ducks at Prince's Island Park on Sunday morning.
JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

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Upcoming

Canada's best films

Calgarians who can't wait for the Calgary International Film Festival in September are in luck. This week, they will have the opportunity to see some of the best films from Canadian directors, as titles from Canada's Top Ten Film Festival — presented by the Toronto International Film Festival — will be featured at Calgary's Globe Cinema. According to the Globe Cinema's website, the movies will be shown from Feb. 20 to 26 as part of a partnership between Calgary's independent theatre and the Calgary International Film Festival. Unlike TIFF, which features films from across the globe, this event focuses solely on movies and directors from the Great White North, with several screenings running at various times daily. The TIFF website explains this year's festival will feature a number of creative and compelling movies from across Canada, including In Her Place, a film about family, adoption and secrecy. Visit globecinema.ca for more information. METRO

Calgary's wild neighbours

Families in Calgary looking to get outside and enjoy the winter weather may want to check out the City of Calgary's Skate in Nature event, taking place Feb. 27 at Carburn Park. According to the City of Calgary website, local experts will be on hand to teach youth and adults alike about urban wildlife. With wildlife experts at the fireside throughout the event, skaters will have a chance to learn more about their wild neighbours while warming up after skating. Hosted by the City of Calgary parks department, the event runs from 4:30 to 8 p.m. METRO

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Oscars not really awesome

Academy Awards. Host Neil Patrick Harris trades quips for singing and the show never really recovers

MATT PRIGGE
Metro in New York City

Akiva Schaffer, Andy Samberg, and Jorma Taccone of The Lonely Island perform Everything Is Awesome from The Lego Movie during the Oscars last night. The Tegan and Sara hit did not win the Oscar for best original song, which went to Glory from Selma, by John Legend and Common. KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

How much of a mess are the Academy Awards? Not even Neil Patrick Harris — the obvious go-to guy who kills at the Tonys and Emmys — could conquer them.

NPH was to be the second safe choice in a row, after last year's Ellen DeGeneres show. Sometimes the Oscars think outside the box and pay the price: Seth MacFarlane singing about boobs in 2013; the dynamic duo of a dazed, noncommittal James Franco and an energy-pill-high Anne Hathaway in 2011.

It all started well. Harris ascended from the floor onto the stage of Los Angeles' Dolby Theatre for his first Oscars gig and immediately addressed the biggest elephant in the room. "Tonight we celebrate the best and whitest — sorry, best and brightest," he quipped, winkingly referring to the heavy snubbing that befell Selma.

But this was a false start. Savage quips were immediately — as in the next sentence — replaced by singing. Harris launched into one of those songs that Billy Crystal used to do, except only about a third of it was dedicated to jokes. Singing about "moving pictures" — it's 1895 all over again! — he offered a sloppy valentine to the medium he's shilling for at this awards show, at least. Harris inserted himself into movies, most of them old — say, blocking Sharon Stone's business from Basic Instinct — but also the night's only feted musical, Into the Woods.

Speaking of which, he was soon joined by Anna Kendrick, as well as Jack Black, who channelled his inner Tenacious D to offer the position that maybe movies are crap and this whole thing is a corrupt love-in. The Oscars do this every now and then: addressing that maybe the ceremony — and maybe even movies themselves — are irrelevant. And as usual, the event had no real answers: just a flashy song-and-dance number performed by one of entertainment's brightest lights.

Harris couldn't really make the Oscars his own, though his best moment was almost certainly a genuinely improvised bit of silliness when he did a song and dance following J.K. Simmons' earnest plea for everyone to call their parents — call, not text — while accepting his Best Supporting Actor prize for Whiplash.

But to the question all of you most wanted to know: Did the Costume Design trophy go to The Grand Budapest Hotel? (OK, some of us were worried it wouldn't.) It did, deservedly, as did the makeup and hairstyling award, for a film that successfully turned the ageless Tilda Swinton into a 90-something prune. In fact, it's odd that OCD director Wes Anderson has not swept the technical awards before.

List of winners

Here are the winners at Sunday's 87th annual Academy Awards at press time. For the full list, visit metronews.ca.

- **Supporting actor:** J.K. Simmons, Whiplash.
- **Supporting actress:** Patricia Arquette, Boyhood.
- **Makeup and hairstyling:** The Grand Budapest Hotel.
- **Foreign language film:** Ida.
- **Documentary feature:** CitizenFour
- **Adapted Screenplay:** The Imitation Game.
- **Original screenplay:** Birdman.
- **Best Actress:** Julianne Moore.
- **Best director:** Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, Birdman
- **Best actor:** Eddie Redmayne.

Mothers and other strangers

Some of the night's odd moments

One of the bigger moments of the night came long before the ceremony even started. On the red carpet, Dakota Johnson got peeved with her date, her mom Melanie Griffith, who said she had still not seen Fifty Shades of Grey because you know why. Apparently Griffith is the only one who hasn't heard about its limp sex scenes.

Host Neil Patrick Harris had some noticeably questionable fumbles. He made jokes about Oprah's size and Octavia Spencer's snacking. He also brutally fumbled through the name Chiwetel Ejiofor. But there was a pretty funny Clint Eastwood joke that compared him to Kanye.

Ida director Pawel Pawlikowski became one of the few winners to ever conquer the nosy, impatient orchestra, who were all set to drown him out far quicker than they would, say, a J.K. Simmons. He persisted and they actually shut up, only coming back when he would let them. Good on ya.

Dakota Johnson with mom Melanie Griffith
JASON MERRITT/GETTY IMAGES

‘WE’RE MORE THAN JUST OUR DRESSES’

We hear ya, Reese. Though we recognize there is more to these stunning ladies (and gents) than their looks, here are the night’s best dressed

METRO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Twitter

@fuggirls
#askhermore is great, but it’s ALSO okay to ask/say who you’re wearing. You got it for free. It’s a transaction. Tip your server. -H #Oscars

@shondarhimes
Stop asking women questions about what they wear to cover the containers they carry their brains around in. #AskHerMore

Carried away

Jennifer Aniston, wearing champagne-coloured Versace, uses her muscles to try to lift Emma Stone, who wore a custom Elie Saab gown.

#AskHerMore

Hollywood actresses sent a feminist message on the Oscar red carpet this year, promoting the #AskHerMore campaign that aims to put an end to sexist questions on the red carpet.“We’re more than just our dresses,” best actress nominee Reese Witherspoon said before the show. “We are so happy to be here and talk about the work that we’ve done. It’s hard being a woman in Hollywood or any other industry.”

Green light

Scarlett Johansson opted for statement jewelry in the form of a green choker, which complemented her perfectly moulded Versace gown.

Lady in red

There was a contingent of leading ladies in strapless red, including Rosamund Pike in Givenchy Haute Couture.

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY

P149010216

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AND: **DON TROTCHIE** *(Defendant)*

To: DON TROTCHIE
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LIFE 3

Make a plan and stick to it

Financial goals.
Becoming debt-free or saving for a down payment for a house requires sacrifice and a well-thought-out strategy

GAIL VAZ-OXLADE
Gail blogs daily at gailvazoxlade.com

Home ownership comes with plenty of pros, but also plenty of cons. It's up to you to plan accordingly. ISTOCK

Sometimes people say they want one thing but then do something that totally works against them achieving their goal. Home ownership is a great example.

Even if they manage to paint a pretty clear picture of what that home will be like, where it will be, and what it will feel like to live there, they can't come to grips with the fact that owning a home changes everything. It usually means not spending money in restaurants, on new clothes, or on vacations so you can build a down payment. It also means not going out three nights a week to party with friends because now you have a mortgage and a whole bunch of around-the-house things to get done.

Deciding what you really, really want means that you not only visualize what you're trying to achieve, you also do your best to predict and understand the consequences of getting what you want.

Everything in life comes with upsides and downsides. If you're only looking at the upsides when you're making your decisions, you'll be unhappily surprised by the downsides.

Having children has huge upsides. But having children also has enormous responsibilities that can take your breath away. Ditto deciding to go back to school, changing your career, moving to a new country or another part of the country, or becoming debt-free.

People often tell me that they know what they want. Just as often, their behaviours do not match their words.

It's important to understand and accept the consequences of your choice and integrate both the upsides and the downsides into your plan. Sure, you may not be able to go out three nights a week with friends, but you can hold a game night or have a Dessert for Dinner evening where everyone brings something to the table. And you may be stuck home with baby, but that won't stop you inviting all the other stuck-home-with-baby people over for poker night or to watch the latest DVD release.

Once you decide what you really, really want, putting some tracking into place to measure your progress is much more likely to get you there. Have you ever noticed that when you start something new you're all gung-ho, but as time goes by your energy and effort wanes? Hey, it's human. Once we lose our initial enthusiasm — when the immediate seems more tempting than the long-term goal — that goal feel almost oppressive. Really? We're going to turn down dinner out with friends again! When will this be over?

When you're working toward a goal, you have to find ways to stay focused on what you've achieved so you keep going. Having knocked a $2,000 credit card balance back to zero, you may find your motivation to attack your student loan lagging. A vacation seems much more enticing now. Doesn't everyone take forever to pay off their student debt anyway?

You have to come up with ways to keep the blush on your debt-free rose.

Measuring your progress is one way to stay focused and keep yourself motivated. By recording how you're doing, you can look at a picture that reflects your reality, not what you think is your reality. You can appreciate what you have accomplished in moving towards your goal.

I can hear some of you moaning now: "But Gail, all that measuring takes time I don't have." Really? You're trying to achieve a goal you've said is important, but you don't have time to check to see how you're doing? Or is it you're afraid you're going to miss the mark and would rather keep your head buried in your delusion?

Measuring can be as simple as making a chart and colouring in your progress or as creative as making a debt-tree with $100 leaves and then pulling off a leaf every time you pay down $100 of your debt.

Why so stubborn?

Hugely resistant to measuring your activities on any front? Maybe you're not yet committed to change. Writing it down means making a deal with yourself to do something that has results.

• If you're not writing it down, there's no deal, and you're off the hook. Of course it also means you're going to keep doing what you know isn't working.

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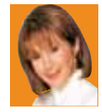
This recipe serves four. ROSE REISMAN

Colour outside the standard chicken lines

Dinner. Stuffing poultry with asparagus, red peppers and cheese gives it a unique look



ROSE REISMAN
For more, visit rosereisman.com or follow her on twitter @rosereisman

1. Preheat oven to 400 F. Coat 9- × 13-inch casserole dish with cooking spray.

2. One at a time, place chicken breast between 2 sheets of waxed paper and pound to an even 2-inch thickness. Set aside.

3. Stuffing: Steam asparagus until just tender, about 2 minutes. Drain and rinse with cold water. Dice and place in a bowl. Add brie, Parmesan, red pepper and dried basil.

4. Lay breasts flat and divide stuffing equally among them. Roll up and secure with toothpick. Whisk egg and milk and place in shallow bowl. Combine bread crumbs and Parmesan in another shallow bowl.

5. Coat nonstick skillet with cooking spray, add the oil and set over medium-high heat. Dip rolled chicken into egg mix and then into bread crumbs. Sauté rolled chicken until browned on all sides, about 5 minutes.

6. Place in prepared casserole dish and bake 15 minutes or until the chicken is no longer pink (or reaches an internal temperature of 165 F). Slice in into medallions to serve. Garnish with fresh basil. **THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS)**

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 lb boneless skinless chicken breasts (about 4 breasts)
- 1 egg
- 2 tbsp 2% milk (or water)
- 2/3 cup seasoned dry bread crumbs
- 2 tbsp grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tsp vegetable oil

Stuffing

- 12 asparagus spears, trimmed
- 1/4 cup diced brie (1 oz)
- 2 tbsp grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 cup chopped roasted red pepper
- 1/2 tsp dried basil
- 3 tbsp chopped fresh basil

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Advice

Must I fête with the whole floor?

OFFICE SPACE
Eleni Deacon
life@metronews.ca

Dear Metro,
I'm having a big birthday party in a couple weeks and I'm planning to invite some of my co-workers. Not the whole office — just a few people I really like. However, I'm worried about offending those colleagues I'd rather not have at my home. Is there a way to keep my gathering exclusive without creating enemies?
— Not on the Guest List

Dear NOTGL,
It's your party and you don't have to include Kevin from marketing if you don't want to. But you also don't have to rub your off-hours friendships in the faces of those you only wish to see at work.

When issuing invites, be discreet. Large meetings — when your whole team is within earshot — are not the best times to tell Jenn about your blowout while the rest listen in feeling left out. Save party planning for emails or one-on-one powwows.

This doesn't mean you should keep your festivities a secret. It's true your rejected colleagues might feel a little jealous of those who made the cut. But they can only get angry if you start acting cagey. Should anyone ask, be polite, but open. Say it's your birthday. And that you're having a party. Then wish them a friendly good night. It's part of your job to make nice during the workweek. Not part of your job: entertaining your whole company on the weekend.

Dear Metro,
I'm currently in line for a really exciting promotion. I badly want the position, but there's a hitch. The other person up for the job is my best friend at work. Someone I love spending time with and genuinely want to succeed. What's worse, things have been really awkward between us since the role came up. I don't want to sacrifice my professional goals, but I need to diffuse this tension. How can I make this okay?
—Friends & Rivals

Dear F&R,
Wanting your friend to succeed and wanting yourself to succeed should not be competing ambitions. Unfortunately, you've found yourself in a peculiar situation where your pal's success directly translates into your own disappointment. In short: This sucks. Have you discussed your conflict at all? It might help to acknowledge — out loud — the no-way-around-it difficulty of your present conflict of interest. Rather than letting the tension creep up, you could engage an upfront conversation in which you both get the opportunity to air how you feel. You shouldn't shirk your own ambitions. But by recognizing your co-worker's aspirations, you might ease your strained relationship.

Regardless of the outcome, you're ready for an upwards move. If this internal advancement doesn't pan out, consider opportunities outside your present organization. Then you can feel happy for yourself — and your friend.

ELENI DEACON IS A TORONTO-BASED WRITER WHO HAS SEEN IT ALL AS AN EAGER EMPLOYEE OF BIG OFFICES, SMALL OFFICES, HOME OFFICES AND ONE ITALIAN RESTAURANT.

Closures spell difficulty for students seeking employment

Job search. Summer job hunters may need to broaden search following retail breakdowns: Experts

Young professionals are having to hustle in market that's bringing on hurdle after hurdle. ISTOCK

Students and new graduates on the hunt for summer jobs may find the search even more daunting given the recent grim news on the homegrown retail front.

With Target shuttering its 133 Canadian locations and Jacob, Mexx, Sony, Parasuco and Jones New York closing up shop, will short-term job opportunities be tougher to come by?

Hershi Rubinoff, president of career site CPG Connect, said she's seen a huge influx of visits from Target employees since the Minneapolis-based retailer announced its exit from the Canadian marketplace.

"I think that's the biggest problem that students and new grads are going to run into this summer because as they're applying for those part-time retail positions, there's going to be a plethora of candidates in the market from Target and ... other retailers," Rubinoff said.

"Because there's going to be so many of them looking for work, they're going to have the experience, and they're likely going to be willing to accept a lower wage."

But Lauren Friese, founder of TalentEgg, a Canadian job site and career resource for students and recent graduates, said it's still unknown how many of the eliminated jobs would have been available to young people.

Unexpected competition

"As they're applying for those part-time retail positions, there's going to be a plethora of candidates in the market from Target and ... other retailers."
Hershi Rubinoff
President of career site CPG Connect

The job market for teens and young adults remains a tough one.

Statistics Canada data revealed the youth unemployment rate declined by 0.7 percentage points in January to 12.8 per cent, with 30,300 more young people working compared to the year prior. Still, the youth unemployment rate far exceeds the national figure of 6.6. per cent.

Rubinoff said young people should be diversifying their job searches and looking to different sectors for potential opportunities.

"I know that event marketing is always something that is very big and definitely picks up in the summertime as the different consumer packaged goods companies look at grassroots ways to reach their target audience," she said.

Friese recently gave an hour-long presentation in which she stressed three main points on pursuing summer and post-graduate work: being resourceful, creative and taking action.

"Being resourceful starts with being very organized and figuring out all the different types of resources that are out there to help you, whether they're in the online world or the offline world," said Friese, whose website features Bright Ideas, an online initiative aimed at crowdsourcing solutions to improve Canada's youth employment.

Friese said she thinks the exciting part of summer employment is that students get the chance to gain experience in an area they may be uncertain they like or want to pursue for the long haul.

"Once you graduate and enter into 'the real world' you don't get those opportunities to take career sabbaticals. You don't get those opportunities to just try something new," she said.

"You commit to something and you're expected to stay there long-term. And if you do jump around a lot, you're thought of as a job-hopper that's not sure of what they want to do.

"If you do it while you're still in school it's a completely different impression," she added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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What to do when Cupid aims for your cubicle

Career. How to date a co-worker without putting your job and reputation in jeopardy

LAKSHMI GANDHI
Metro in New York

It's all very exciting when a fling comes your way, but keep the flirting at a minimum in the workplace. ISTOCK

While many people claim that they'd never date someone at work, the numbers tell a different story. According to a 2014 CareerBuilder survey, 38 per cent of workers say they've dated a co-worker. But mixing love and the workplace can be tricky.

Here's what you should do if the love bug infects your office.

Proceed with caution

Have you ever dealt with a messy breakup and you're oh-so-glad your ex lives across town? Well, what happens when he or she's in the next cubicle pod? Proceed slowly and remain professional at the office — no PDA after-hours at the copier, OK?

That's not to say romance can't blossom and result in marriage, but the alternative — a fling leading to a stressful breakup and constant run-ins at the water cooler, not to mention career setbacks — are possibilities as well.

Do not date your boss

This is simply not smart — your career and reputation are at stake, and if word gets out, your colleagues may be jealous and think you're getting special treatment. Or, your boss may overcompensate and be harsher on you with demanding work and performance reviews. Just say no. And if you're the boss, avoid dating someone you manage at all costs.

The key to delicately handling office politics is to be protective of your love life by keeping your romance on the down low.

If it's obvious you're spending lunchtime together and are spotted out and about there's no need to deny it.

But in the ideal scenario, it should be up to you to decide when to tell colleagues you are a couple.

Compartmentalize

Remember to set up your Facebook privacy settings so everyone doesn't know about your romantic weekend away or the cute selfies you took after work.

- This is especially true as things get more serious. If it's looking like you've found your soulmate, do you really want everyone knowing your business?

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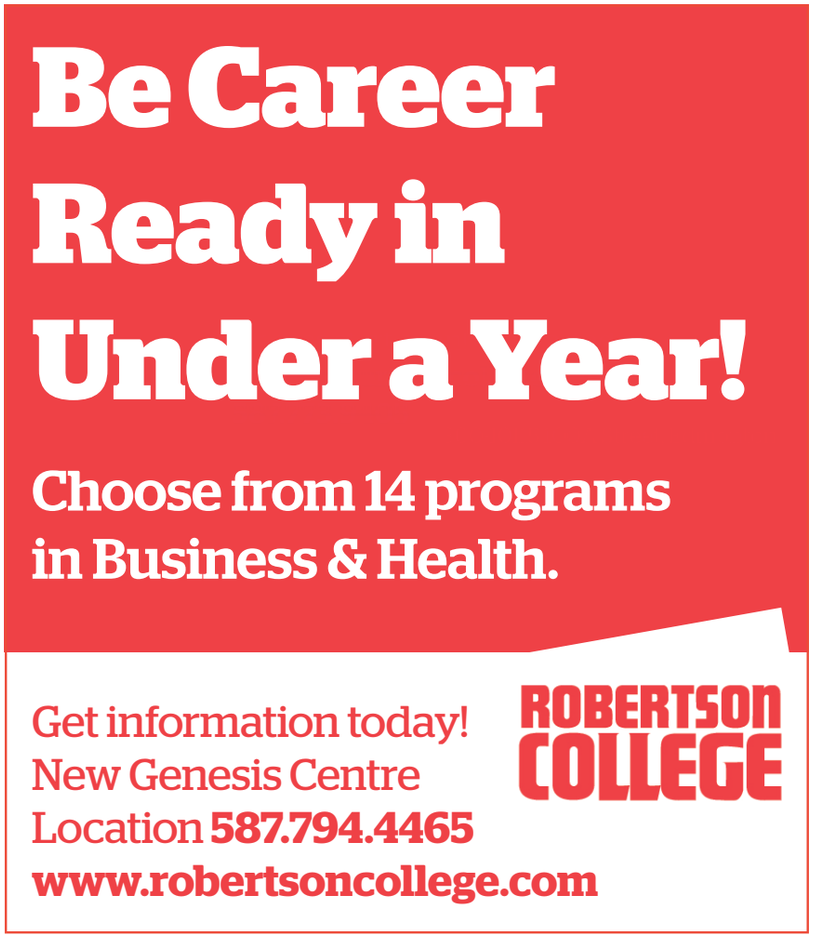
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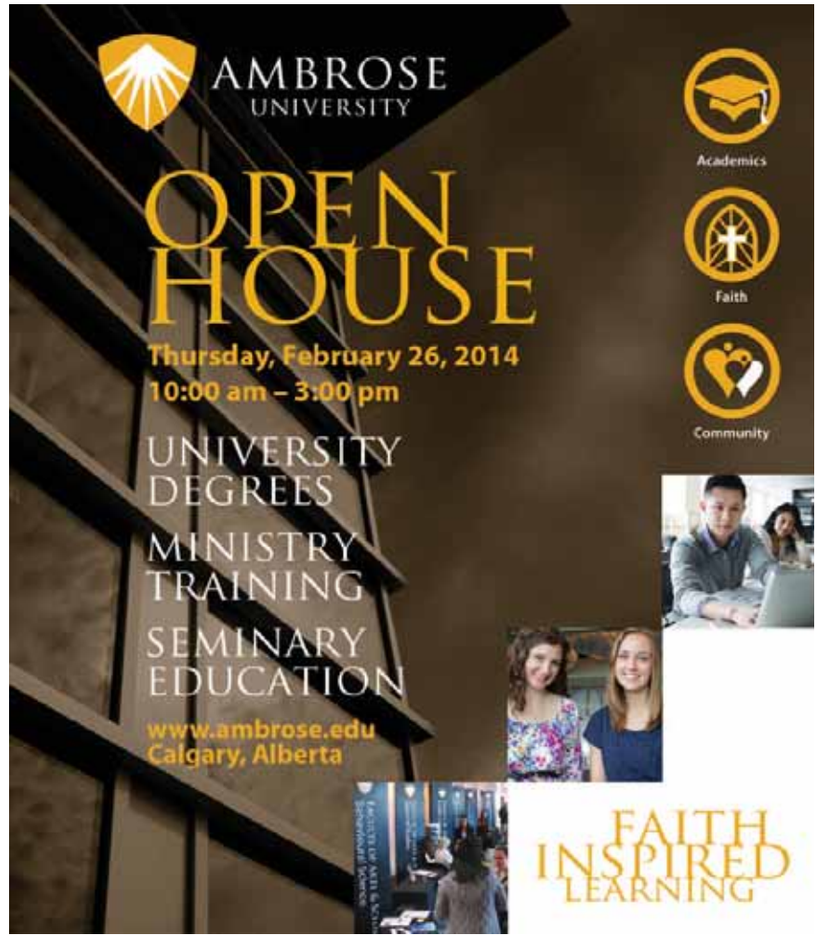

Jones wins the Scotties for fifth time

Manitoba skip Jennifer Jones reacts to a shot during the gold-medal game against Alberta at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Moose Jaw, Sask., on Sunday. Jones, who won Olympic gold last year, defeated Val Sweeting 6-5 for her fifth career national women's title. Earlier in the day, Team Canada's Rachel Homan defeated Saskatchewan's Stefanie Lawton 7-5 to win the bronze medal. Homan was the two-time defending champion.
JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flames hoping to set the road on fire

NHL. 7-game journey through Eastern Conference awaits team as Brier takes over Saddledome

Curling has pushed the Calgary Flames out the Saddledome doors and onto their longest road trip of the season.

While their home arena gets prepped for the Canadian men's curling championship starting later this week, the playoff-bubble Flames depart Monday for a seven-game, 13-day swing through the Eastern Conference.

Quoted

"I'm a big believer in these road trips. They can be real momentum-builders."
Flames captain Mark Giordano

Calgary (32-23-4) opens its trek Tuesday against the New York Rangers, followed by the Devils, Islanders, Flyers, Bruins, Red Wings and Senators. They wrap up the trip in Ottawa on March 8 when the Tim Hortons Brier also concludes at the Scotiabank Saddledome.

After five seasons of playoff-free hockey, Calgary's current position is both thrilling and nerve-racking for Flames Nation.

Los Angeles, Calgary and San Jose were deadlocked at 68 points apiece and ranked in seventh, eighth and ninth, respectively, in the Western Conference. The Minnesota Wild entered their Sunday home game against the Dallas Stars just one point back.

The Flames are a solid 15-11-1 away from the Saddledome this season, but their record against the Eastern Conference is 8-12-2.

"We know what's at stake. Everyone does," Flames captain Mark Giordano said Sunday. "The one thing is the excitement level for us because we haven't been in this situation in a few years." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jiri Hudler and the Flames suffered a 6-3 loss against the Ducks on Friday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Bruins rout Hawks to snap six-game losing streak

Patrice Bergeron opened the scoring with his 200th goal, then added two assists in Boston's four-goal second period and the Bruins snapped a season-high six-game losing streak with a 6-2 rout of the Chicago Blackhawks on Sunday.

Reilly Smith had a goal and assist for the Bruins, who were 0-4-2 during the slide, their longest winless stretch since 2010. Loui Eriksson, Milan Lucic, Gregory Campbell and Dougie Hamilton also scored for Boston.

Jonathan Toews and Bryan Bickell scored for the Blackhawks, who have lost three straight (0-2-1).
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASCAR

'Sliced Bread' the toast of Daytona

Joey Logano, the driver who has spent seven years trying to live up to impossible expectations, raced to his first career Daytona 500 victory Sunday as he continued to reward Roger Penske for catapulting him into one of NASCAR's top stars.

Nicknamed "Sliced Bread," Logano found himself searching for a new job after four underwhelming seasons.

He was snatched up by Penske for the 2013 season after being dropped by Joe Gibbs Racing, a move that jump-started his career. His victory in "The Great American Race" on Sunday gave "The Captain" his second Daytona 500 title.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Working behind the scenes can be frustrating for someone as outgoing as you. But it does enable you to do things you don't want others to see.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Some people may say you are being too cautious, especially with money, but your sixth sense tells you this is not a good time to splash out.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Just because you disagree with someone does not mean you cannot be friends. The message of the stars today is differences of opinion must not be allowed to come between you.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
If someone you live or work with needs assistance today, and according to the planets they most likely will, you must go out of your way to help.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Keep standards high over the coming week and make sure those around you aim high too. You'll be judged as much on who you know as what you do.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
With the Sun at right angles to Saturn, you will have to give ground. Compromise is not an option, it's essential. There are times when you have no choice but to work as part of a team, and this is one of them.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may have to postpone something you were looking forward to but looking back at the end of the week you will be relieved you never got started.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You need to recognize that you do not have unlimited resources. If there is something you want, and it doesn't come cheap, you may have to put it on your wait list for a while.

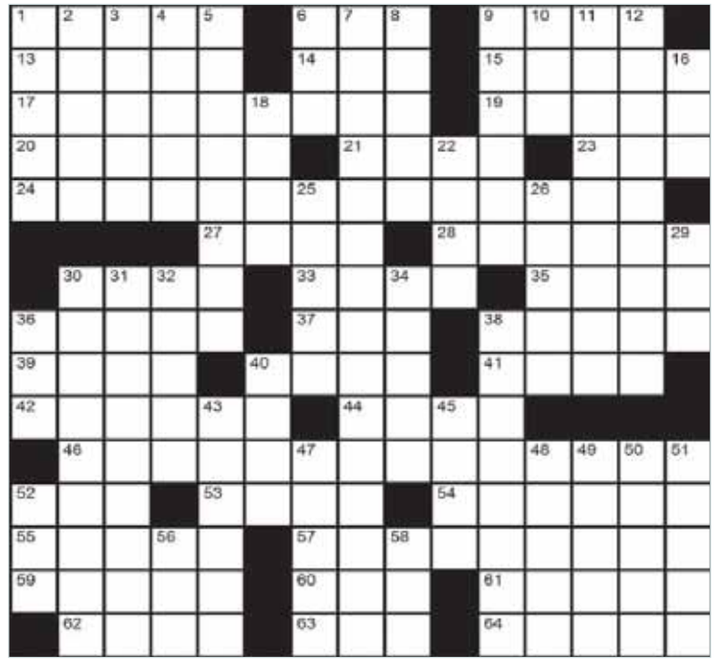
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Saturn in your sign at odds with the Sun today means you must not get worked up about something which, in the greater scheme of things, is of only minor importance.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
What a friend or relative tells you may not be what you were hoping to hear but it is good advice and if you are smart you will listen and learn.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Stay out of a dispute today, even if you think you can bring the two sides together. Chances are you will bring them together but it is likely to be in opposition to you!

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't worry if your latest project does not seem to be making much progress. There is a good cosmic reason why you are being held back.

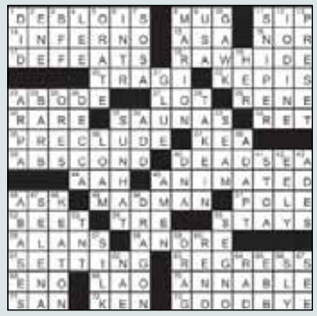
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. Acknowledge
6. Bottom-of-letter letters
9. In _ __ (Sequentially)
13. "From __ __ shining..."
14. "__, what's up, doc?" - Bugs Bunny
15. "Tiny Bubbles" singer: 2 wds.
17. Michigan city of song
19. Keep your __ __ the prize
20. Catch
21. WWII-era servicewomen
23. "__ Boot" (1981)
24. One was set up by a German U-boat landing party in Martin Bay in Northern Labrador in WWII: 2 wds.
27. Currency exchange fee
28. Songstress Ms. Gore
30. Aura
33. Santa Fe, _. __.
35. Ailments
36. Glimmer
37. Positive opp.
38. "Darn __ __!"
39. "You leave __ __ choice..."
40. Like venison
41. Not any
42. Deep blue
44. Blood type, _ __.
46. Toronto Maple Leafs mascot: 3 wds.
52. Association [abbr.]
53. Get paid
54. Six-headed mythological sea monster
55. Actress Sophia
57. Chantal Kreviazuk hit: 2 wds.
59. Olympic sprinter Mr. Bolt
60. Wrath
61. Painting stand
62. Thesaurus entries, briefly
63. Dangerous fly, when doubled
64. Salon snippee

Down
1. Awry
2. Actor, Cameron __ Stewart
3. Mediterranean island
4. "But is __ __?" (Museum query, perhaps)
5. Weapon axe
6. Collectible candy dispenser
7. Exhibit etiquette: 3 wds.
8. Piglet
9. "__ Fideles"
10. Mr. Orbison
11. Bill phased out by the Loonie: 2 wds.
12. Ms. Furtado's debut album: 2 wds.!
16. Switch selections
18. Take down _ __ (Humble)
22. Mineral residue
25. Actress Lisa
26. "__ __ __ go?" (Was the thumbs-up given?)
29. Couture letters
30. Calgary Flames forward Curtis
31. "Dallas" actress: 2 wds.
32. _.__ ('Dine in the Dark' restaurant in Toronto and Montreal)
34. Ancient land
36. Dieter's stat.
38. How clandestine operations are carried out: 2 wds.
40. "You've __ _ Way" by Shania Twain
43. Big Bandleader Mr. Miller's
45. "It's __ __ Quiet" by Bjork
47. Elliptical path
48. Way to learn a song on piano: 2 wds.
49. Meredith's "Family Ties" role
50. Hand creams ingredients
51. Actor Mr. Julia's
52. Jazz musician, __ Dara
56. German article
58. Cost

Last week's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

8			6		3			7
		4	9	5	1	8		
2		5				9		4
		8		2		6		
3		9				7		8
		1	3	7	8	4		
6			4		2			3

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Last week's Sudoku

9	4	7	3	1	8	6	2	5
2	8	6	5	7	9	4	1	3
1	5	3	4	2	6	9	7	8
8	6	5	7	9	3	1	4	2
4	1	2	6	8	5	3	9	7
3	7	9	1	4	2	5	8	6
6	2	1	8	5	4	7	3	9
5	9	4	2	3	7	8	6	1
7	3	8	9	6	1	2	5	4

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14T839 • R/CAB • POWER GRP.

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14C033

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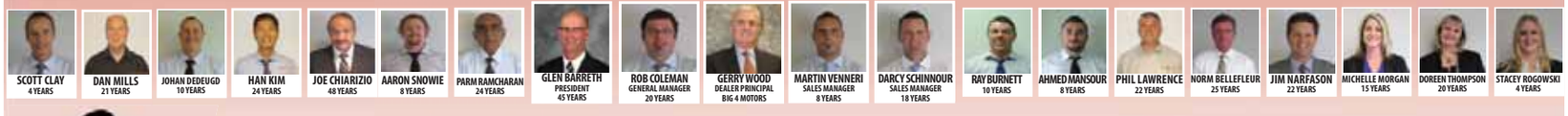

SCOTT CLAY 4 YEARS | DAN MILLS 21 YEARS | JOHAN DEDEUGD 10 YEARS | HAN KIM 24 YEARS | JOE CHIARIZIO 48 YEARS | AARON SNOWIE 8 YEARS | PARM RAMCHARAN 24 YEARS | GLEN BARRETH PRESIDENT 45 YEARS | ROB COLEMAN GENERAL MANAGER 20 YEARS | GERRY WOOD DEALER PRINCIPAL BIG 4 MOTORS | MARTIN VENNERI SALES MANAGER 8 YEARS | DARCY SCHINNOUR SALES MANAGER 18 YEARS | RAY BURNETT 10 YEARS | AHMED MANSOUR 8 YEARS | PHIL LAWRENCE 22 YEARS | NORM BELLEFLEUR 25 YEARS | JIM NARFASON 22 YEARS | MICHELLE MORGAN 15 YEARS | DOREEN THOMPSON 20 YEARS | STACEY ROGOWSKI 4 YEARS

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